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USPTO announces extension of the Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program through May 6, 2028

May 6, 2026

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) is extending the Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program. Under this program, appellants may file a petition to expedite review of the appeal by the PTAB. A notice of the extension will publish shortly in the Federal Register. The extension continues the program for another two years. The new expiration date is May 6, 2028.

Effective in this extension, the Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program will set a target of reaching a decision on each *ex parte* appeal within four months. For additional information on the Fast-Track Appeals Pilot Program, see the PTAB's webpage.

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